Pest Alert

DROUGHT AND WINTER DRYING

FOREST SERVICE--U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
IN COOPERATION WITH YOUR STATE AGENCY

Drought and winter drying have periodically caused major damage to trees. Drought reduces the amount of water available in the soil. In the case of winter drying, the water may be in the soil, but freezing of the soil makes the water unavailable to the tree. In both cases, more water is lost through transpiration than is available to the plant.

Symptoms of drought and winter drying may include partial or complete leaf scorch, premature leaf drop, or death of the entire tree. De-icing compounds can cause similar damage. If the tree is not killed, it may be stressed enough to make it more susceptible to attack by fungi such as *Armillaria mellea and Diplodia pinea,* or by bark beetles, Ips spp.

Tip burn

Marginal and interveinal burning

Drought-caused mortality

Winter drying

Partial mortality caused by winter drying

Reports of injury due to drought should be sent to

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